

Concord Area, Lakes Region and North Country

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Fiscal Year 2006 Fact Sheet

The American Red Cross is a non-profit, community service organization dedicated to providing disaster relief and emergency aid to people living in central and northern New Hampshire. The Red Cross helps people prevent and prepare for disasters and respond to emergencies. Staff and volunteers build stronger and safer communities by offering a variety of programs and services including health and safety education, disaster response, emergency preparedness, blood services, military communications and international tracings. The main Chapter office, located in Concord, serves about two-thirds of New Hampshire to the Canadian border, including the Concord Area, Lakes Region and North Country.

2006 Developments

In June 2006, the Belmont Branch office of the Red Cross was officially opened in the Belknap Mall. A grand opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony was celebrated by the public, the Town of Belmont, the Belmont Chamber of Commerce and the Red Cross Chapter. The expansion and relocation effort into the Lakes Region and North Country allows the Chapter to better respond to the immediate needs of the local residents when disaster strikes. The Chapter staff and volunteers work to strengthen the local communities with courses in CPR (cardio pulmonary resuscitation), First Aid, health education and other lifesaving services. The goal of the expansion is to build safer communities through training, preparation and response.

Financial Information

The Red Cross receives no funding from the federal government. Our revenue sources include 35% voluntary community donations, 41% products and services, 13% United Way, 1% grants, 0.6% municipal allocations and 8.5% from all other sources. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2006, the local Chapter, covering the Concord Area, Lakes Region and North Country, received funds from 2,545 donors; 4% were donated specifically for flood disasters in the state, 22% were for other disasters in the area, 21% came from the capital campaign, and the remainder were general contributions. The Chapter served 14,640 individuals with a combined operating budget of 1.25 million dollars.

Programs and Services

Health and Safety Services

The American Red Cross provides instruction in CPR, First Aid and AED (automated external defibrillation), lifeguard training, water safety and babysitting. The classes are offered at the Chapter

office and in the community at workplaces and in schools. Last year, 14,195 individuals received training and certification in American Red Cross Health and Safety programs.

Licensed Nurse Assistant (LNA) Training

Licensed Nurse Assistants (LNAs) provide basic patient care and assist with nursing procedures under the direction of registered nurses and licensed practical nurses. In New Hampshire, home health aides must be licensed nurse assistants. Licensing is granted upon successful completion of a standardized training program and passage of a written exam. 464 LNAs received their license in fiscal year 2006 after training and/or testing through the Chapter's LNA program; 191 of those were new entries into the health care field who were fully trained through the Chapter.

Disaster Services

The American Red Cross has an extensive network of volunteers who are specially trained to respond to disasters such as fires, floods, severe thunderstorms, hazardous materials spills and acts of terrorism. The most common disasters are home fires. Disaster Action Team volunteers provide food, lodging, clothing and emotional support to people who have been forced to flee their homes due to a disaster. The Red Cross provides a three part disaster training program for people wanting to become members of the national disaster services human resources system (DSHR).

Last year, your Red Cross Disaster Action Teams responded to 53 emergencies affecting local families. Emergency Services assisted six fire departments during the April fires by providing \$930 of food and water. During the New Hampshire Floods in May 2006, the Chapter served 82 families and raised \$31,389 to defray the actual service cost of \$31,535 (excluding other relief expenses).

Blood Services

The Red Cross works closely with the regional blood services center to organize blood drives in the community. During fiscal year 2006, 158 blood drives were held, yielding 8,404 productive units of blood.

Armed Forced Emergency Services and International Tracing

The American Red Cross keeps families connected with their loved ones overseas by providing emergency communication 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The Red Cross assists thousands of military families daily with urgent messages regarding the birth of a child, serious illness or death of a loved one. Confidential counseling as well as assistance with emergency loans and grants is also provided. The American Red Cross works with other national societies to trace family members in the midst of war, civil unrest or disaster in other countries. This service includes exchanging family messages, making international disaster relief inquiries and providing information and referral. Last year, your local Red Cross responded to 152 cases for assistance to military families.

For more information about the work of your local Red Cross Chapter, go to the website, <u>www.concord-redcross.org</u>, or call (800) 464-6692 or (603) 225-6697.